Research into Origin of 1902 A. H. Hill Lumber Co. Calendar

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Background

On November 18, 2024, Dale C. Maley, President of the Livingston County (Illinois) Historical Society was sorting recent donations to the archives of the Historical Society.

A framed calendar from 1902 of the A. H. Hill Lumber Co. was found, along with a handwritten note on the back of the item. No names were found associated with the item, including who wrote the hand-written description.

We will not be keeping this item in our Historical Society archives since it is not associated with Livingston County. I scanned in both items and a copy is shown below.

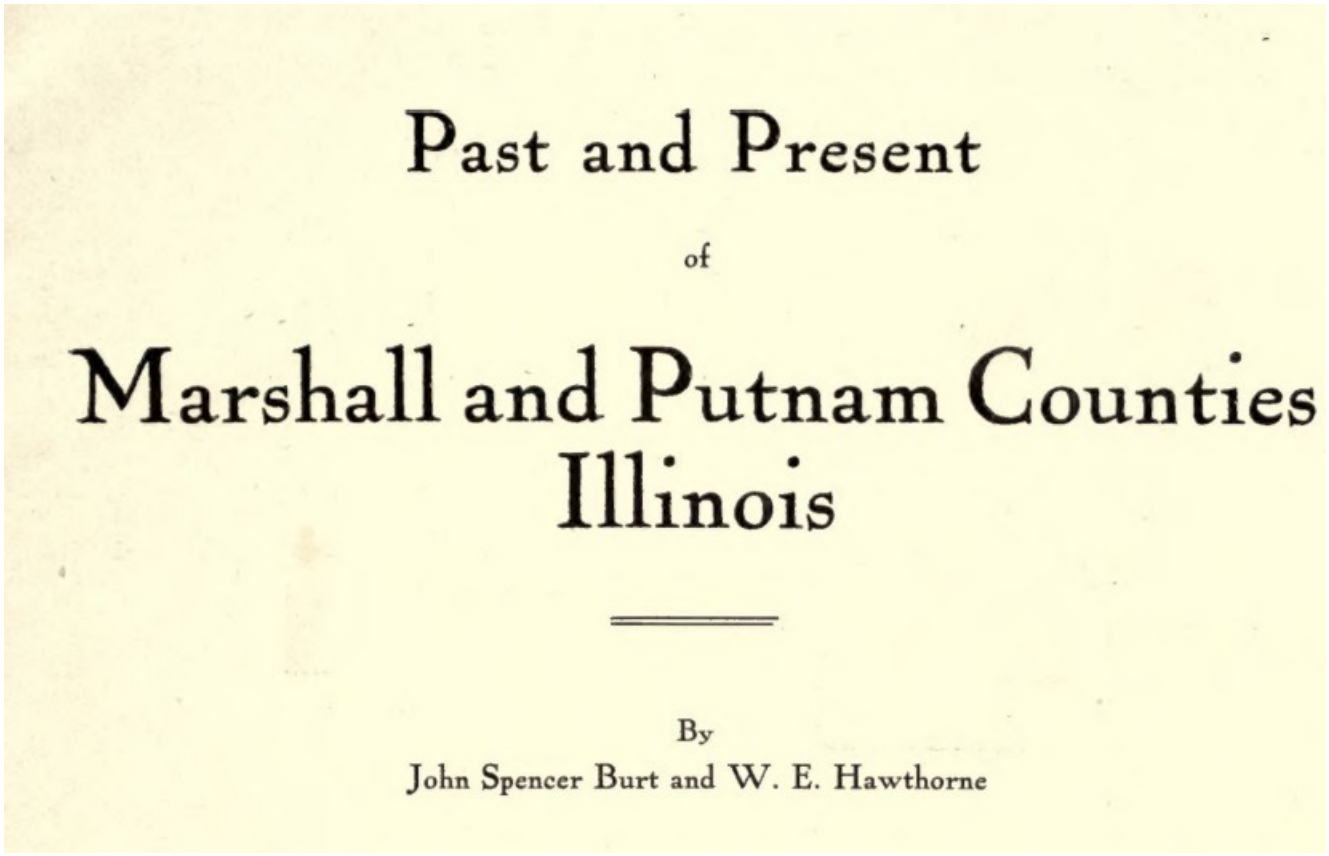
Framed in 1911 for a christmas gift

A. H. Hill was a wholesale lumber co. This calendar top was sold when a longtime lumber company went out of business here in Washburn, Il. The calendar was dated 1902 and depicts all phases of the cutting of trees for the saw mills.

The early lumbering was dependent on the white pine trees. Cutting of them began in the state of Maine before the revolutionary war. The British found them very strong, light in weight, and would not split when many nails were put into them. They used many as ship's masts, and in the Shipbuilding industry. Gradually the cutting of the white pine trees moved westward as the virgin stands were exhausted. Around 1902 the cutting had nearly exhausted the standing trees in Michigan and moved into Wisconsin. After the Wisconsin, and the few stands in Minnesota, were harvested lumbering skipped to the western states of Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon where lumbering is still an important part of those states economy, but the white pine belt is gone in eastern and midwestern U.S. The white pine tree was a great part of all the construction industry in the US. It is a great wood to work with.

Additional Research

I googled the A. H. Hill Lumber Co. and found a 1907 history book titled Past and Present Marshall and Putnam Counties, Illinois, by John Spencer Burt and W. E. Hawthorne. In this book is a biography for a man who worked for the A. H. Hill Lumber Co.



Past and Present

of

Marshall and Putnam Counties
Illinois

By
John Spencer Burt and W. E. Hawthorne

FRED A. VAUGHN.

One of the most energetic, enterprising and successful business men of Wenona and of Marshall county is Fred A. Vaughn, secretary and treasurer of the A. H. Hill Lumber Company, and although he is yet a young man the financial and commercial history of this locality would be incomplete and unsatisfactory without a personal and somewhat extended mention of him, for he is a typical representative of the spirit of modern progress and belongs to that class of representative American citizens who, while advancing individual interests, also promote the general welfare. Born in Wenona, March 17, 1876, he is a son of Isaac and Maria J. (Willis) Vaughn, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New Jersey. The father came to the west prior to the Civil war, arriving at Magnolia, Illinois, about 1855. He afterward removed to Wenona and was here living at the time of the outbreak of hostilities between the north and the south. Believing in the justice of the Union cause, he offered his services to the government, enlisting as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. His company was largely made up of men from Wenona and Osage and the command was with Sherman on the cele-

in the justice of the Union cause, he offered his services to the government, enlisting as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. His company was largely made up of men from Wenona and Osage and the command was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and in various important battles which led up to the final victorious result, in all of which Mr. Vaughn participated. He was captured with his regiment at the battle of Hartsville, but was afterward exchanged. He served as a first lieutenant of his company and when Captain Southwell, his superior officer, was wounded he was made acting captain, having charge of the company until Captain Southwell was again able to resume command. After the close of the war Mr. Vaughn returned to Wenona and during the political campaign that followed he was nominated and elected county treasurer of Marshall county, in which office he served for two terms, making a creditable record. He was the first mayor of Wenona and did much toward organizing the city and placing its interests upon a safe, substantial basis. He was also engaged in the drug business with his old captain, Mr. Southwell, for a number of years and figured very prominently in the public life and business interests of the town. He died in 1904 and is still survived by his widow. In their family were two

sons and two daughters: Cora, the wife of L. M. Bayne, of Ottawa, Illinois; Alice, the wife of A. H. Hill; Ralph, a druggist of Wenona; and Fred A.

The last named, at the usual age, entered the public schools and passed through successive grades until he had completed the high school course. He then attended the Wesleyan College at Bloomington, Illinois, and after the completion of his education became connected with the lumber trade at Lostant, Illinois, in 1899. Subsequently he was at Ottawa in the same line of business and on the 1st of July, 1904, he was made secretary and treasurer of the A. H. Hill Lumber Company at Wenona. This company is now controlling one of the largest lumber enterprises in this section of the state and the business is constantly growing. Mr. Vaughn is a factor in its success, being a young man of marked enterprise, keen business discrimination and unfaltering industry. Already he has gained a notable place in commercial circles and one does not need the gift of prophecy to predict a still more successful future, because his qualifications are such as insure success in the business world.

Apparently, the A. H. Hill Lumber Co. was in Wenona, Illinois, which is in the neighborhood of Washburn, Illinois.

Maybe I can find a historical society for either Marshall or LaSalle Counties that wants the physical calendar?

I will go ahead and upload the scanned items to Archive.Org where anyone can find them for free in the future.

Dale C. Maley